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"The most audacious booklet of the century."

God hath chosen the foolish things to confound the wise - - the weak things to confound the mighty, and the base things - which are despised, yea, and the things that are not - - to bring to naught the things that are."

Dr. Frank Crane's

OPINION OF

ASTROLOGY

With notes, comments and other interesting matter

By the publisher

FRANK THEODORE ALLEN, *Director,*

ASTROLOGICAL RESEARCH SOCIETY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

1918

"This prospect vast - what is 'it' ?

Judged aright 'tis Nature's system of divinity.

'Tis Elder Scripture, writ by God's own hand:

Scripture authentic! Uncorrupt by man!"

PRICE ONE DOLLAR

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Unless we may except the chapter entitled "ASTRO-METHEOLOGY," which commences on page 68, the author, in this brochure, makes no serious attempt to prove the truth of astrology, nor to demonstrate the effectiveness of the planetary influences upon human life and the affairs of men and nations. His underlying purpose, on this occasion, is to publicly demonstrate, exhibit, dissect and expose the contemptibly dishonest, cowardly and utterly unscientific spirit manifested by those who denounce astrology and who ridicule the claim that it deserves to take rank as the greatest of all the arts and sciences.

The author does not attempt to justify, nor even apologize for the nauseating messes that are so generally served under the guise of scientific astrology. Nor does he defend the professional practice of giving astrological "Readings," advice, etc. The subject is far too vast and all-inclusive to warrant an attempt to comprehensively consider any of its numerous features in a booklet of this kind.

One of the chief motives that inspired the writing and publishing of much of the matter included in this brochure is an earnest desire to challenge the respectful attention of men and women of learning, culture and influence, and convince them that the defamers of astrology have not a right to stand upon; that they have neither a moral nor a scientific right to do much less to express, an opinion concerning the validity of the claims of astrology! Not one of them has ever seriously and honestly given the subject such consideration and fair investigation as would warrant their voice an opinion of even a much less profound and abstruse theme!

Very often the writer has blushed and felt impelled to apologize for the queer types, strange capers and fantastic practices of many of those who publicly espouse the cause of astrology. It is a sad and shameful fact that this noblest of all the sciences has been so generally and widely despised and rejected by the "Cultured," the "Respectables" and the "Eminent Brows," that only those who were in some way rendered immune or indifferent to the jeers, sneers, ridicule and ignomy meted out to its advocates have been able to persist in its investigation, advocacy and practice. Mental blocks coincident with such immunity have, of course, been greatly emphasized by the intellectual and often social isolation, the frequent persecutions and other untoward conditions resulting from the adoption of the championship of an unpopular and despised art and calling.

For many years the writer has cherished the hope and expectation that he would live to see and participate in at least the beginnings of a sane, sensible and soundly scientific system of astrological research and experimentation. None but the most arrant bigots will dispute the following declaration:

IF IT BE TRUE THAT THE PLANETS AND THE SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC DO EXERT A DEFINITE AND READILY ASCERTAINABLE INFLUENCE UPON THE LIFE, CHARACTER AND DESTINY OF MEN AND NATIONS, THEN THE INVESTIGATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE MODES, MEANS AND METHODS OF SUCH INFLUENCE CONSTITUTES THE MOST IMPORTANT SUBJECT THAT THE HUMAN MIND IS CAPABLE OF COMPREHENDING.

DR. FRANK CRANE'S OPINION OF ASTROLOGY.

Text by Frank Theodore Allen.

But now, so callous grown, so changed since youth;
I've learned to think and sternly speak the truth:
Learned to deride the critics starch decree,
And break him on the wheel he meant for me!
To spurn the rod a scribbler bids me kiss,
Nor care if courts and crowds applaud or hiss!

For many years I have been, and still am, an ardent admirer of the writings of Dr. Frank Crane. Almost always I find myself in hearty accord with the opinions he expresses, the theories he propounds, and the quotations or projects he proposes. I had come to idealize this man and hold him in reverence as one who was eminently worthy of my sincerest love and respect. In the winter of 1912-13 my attention was called to one of Dr. Crane's newspaper articles in which he had expressed himself quite vigorously in condemnation of astrology. I addressed him courteously and asked for his birth-date in order that I might prepare for him a brief sketch of what the horoscope of his birth would reveal, hoping by that means to interest him and convince him of the wondrous things inherent to the science of astrology. I sent a brief tho very courteous note accompanying with my request, but saying that I had no knowledge of the time at which his birth occurred. I did the best I could with such incomplete data, explaining to him that it stood to reason that if there was any truth in the theory of planetary influence upon human life and character that there must be some scientific way by which to discriminate between and distinguish the various children that are born every day. In that letter I said: "Every minute of time and every degree of latitude and of longitude involves differences in the relative angles at which the planetary rays converge, hence the correct time of birth and knowledge of the latitude and longitude of the birth place was necessary to insure accuracy in forming a correct estimate of

the influences of the planets in any life.'

The following is another paragraph from the same letter to Dr. Crane:

"My reason for going to this trouble is that recently in one of your writings you asserted that astrology was 'one of the useless things that the advancing intelligence of humanity had relegated to the junk heap.' Now my respect for you and the exceptional ability evidenced in your writings is such that upon reading that article from your pen I felt as grieved as though a favorite child had suddenly given evidence of a most distressing defect in character. One of my idols had been revealed as having a nasty flaw. A man whose sayings I have been quoting and lauding to the skies has shown himself tainted with an unpardonable prejudice against and ignorance of one of the most comprehensive and stupendously potent repositories of knowledge—of Self-Knowledge—that Creative Intelligence has made available to humanity.

"Your intellectual strength and influence is measured by the completeness of your knowledge and information, and is limited by the gaps of ignorance and the prejudices which you fail to eliminate. If there is any truth in astrology it is by far the most important truth that men can approach, comprehend and utilize. If there be a strictly scientific and mathematical KEY to the code of laws which predetermine human character and influence the general trend and tendencies of human life, then it behooves a man who exerts so great an influence as you certainly do upon the minds of thinking people to acquaint himself with this truth and avoid the disagreeable re-

responsibility of writing himself down as prejudiced as well as adding to the prejudice of his fellows."

Dr. Crane sent a brief tho very courteous acknowledgment of the effort I had made to interest him in the science of astrology. Below follows a copy of his note:

CRANE

5 West Fifty-fifth Street, New York.
March 13/13.

Frank Theodore Allen, Room 210,
Humphrys Building,
Atlantic City, N. J.

My dear Mr. Allen:—I thank you for your very interesting horoscope, which I have read with careful attention. I am glad you called my attention to this department of knowledge.

Yours very truly,

FRANK CRANE.

I accepted Dr. Crane's polite note at its full value, believing him to be sincere and indeed glad that I had called his attention to a department of knowledge to which he had hitherto been a stranger. But as the years that have since intervened passed by I was frequently wounded by learning of fresh attacks made by Dr. Crane upon this subject that I knew him to be so shamefully ignorant of and prejudiced against. These, and more especially certain recent developments, have proven that Dr. Crane's courteous treatment of me in 1913 was nothing but a wilfully assumed mask behind which he concealed his contemptuous estimate of me and of the theme I had taken such great pains to try and interest him in.

It grieved me to realize that a man of such charming talent and whose abilities placed him in the foremost rank of literary virtuoses should be so terribly tainted with the cankerous poisons of prejudice. It hurt and stung me to the quick to realize that the same papers that published the screeds against astrology by Dr. Crane and others of his ilk welcomed and gave great prominence to the grotesquely irrational and wildly improbable predictions of such megalomaniacs as, for instance, one "Professor Gustave Meyers, of Hoboken, N. J.," who brazenly advertised himself as "The Nation's Counsellor," and whose wild and fantastic pronounciamientos had in turn declared the certain destruction of nearly every city on the map. By such means have the newspapers assisted in the conspiracy to nurture the prejudice against astrology, causing it and its sincere votaries to be despised, scorned, denounced and

ridiculed. And incidentally giving them free advertising to certain unscrupulous mountebanks who never hesitate to take the fullest advantage of the credulity of the poor dupes who apply to them for their views and readings.

On January 10th, 1918, I received a communication from a gentleman who explained that he had recently been convinced that there must be much truth in astrology and that he was in quest of guidance in the selection of suitable books to assist his investigation of the subject. Incidentally this gentleman stated that he had written to Dr. Frank Crane because of the sincere respect in which he held him after having for years been reading Crane's syndicated articles in the newspaper. This seeker after light and truth quite naturally assumed that a man of Dr. Crane's evident breadth of thought and wonderful fund of information on all sorts of subjects would surely be well informed concerning and at least charitably disposed toward astrology.

Dr. Crane's response to the query of my new correspondent was nothing short of an insulting denunciation of astrology. I shall presently reproduce in full the letter which Dr. Crane sent this gentleman in response to his inquiries. To say that I was hurt, indignant and angry but mildly describes the feelings this incident aroused in me. Here was I—in the midst of one of the most severe struggles against the menace of poverty and suffering keenly the want of suitable facilities with which to do my work—and for no other reason than because of the popular prejudice against astrology which is so wilfully and persistently fostered by the likes of Dr. Crane. And here was this man who in sincere quest of guidance had applied to this famous, popular and prosperous Dr. Crane only to be treated to a scornful diatribe against the subject he had ventured to inquire about. I lost no time about addressing a letter to Dr. Crane. That letter and his answer and others that followed it will be reproduced in the order of their development:

Washington, D. C., January 10, 1918.

Dr. Frank Crane,
117 West 79th St.,
New York City.

Mr. dear Dr. Crane:—I have before me a letter written by you a few weeks ago in reply to an inquiry that was sent you by one who admires your writings. I shall quote its message:

"I have never considered astrology seriously for the simple reason that I

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The author has demonstrated the above claim to isolated individuals and is now ready to make demonstration under strict test conditions as must convince and satisfy all fair-minded and rational people. In the twenty years he has devoted to astrology he has not once met nor learned of one of its critics who had personally investigated or studied the subject. Nor has he ever learned of a single instance in which one who had once studied and mastered the rudiments of scientific astrology who afterwards denied the effectiveness of the influence of the planets and the Zodiac upon human life.

Either Astrology is the ONE BIG and SURPASSING TRUTH OF ALL TRUTH, or it is NOTHING!

FRANK THEODORE ALLEN.

CRUDITIES, BLUNDERS, ERRORS, ETC.

Readers are asked to kindly make note of such errors in spelling, phrasing, punctuating, etc., as they find in this booklet and send a memorandum of same to the author, so that he may make proper corrections before printing a second edition—which he feels confident will be required.

The writing of and all the work incident to the preparation of this publication has been performed under the most turbulent, distressing and painfully trying conditions imaginable. The author begs to assure his readers that with good health, fair facilities, congenial environments and freedom from vexatious interferences, he is capable of turning out a much more creditable job than he is obliged to let go on this occasion. He desires also to express his sincere appreciation of the exceptional ability and splendid helpfulness of the printers. He has never had "cleaner" proofs than those for this booklet.

ADDENDUM: Finding two additional pages at my disposal I have decided to use them and include the first few paragraphs of the story of my matrimonial experiences. This should prove especially interesting because it includes an analysis or description of the sign which dominated the personality of President Wilson. But back of and underlying this personality Woodrow Wilson has the Sun—representing the heart, spirit, center and foundation of his character; and the Moon, who signifies his instinctive or natural mental atmosphere; and Mercury, who denotes the intellect and reasoner, or higher mind—all three in the cardinal sign Capricorn. Capricorn is, pre-eminently, the sign of order, system, organization, method, leadership, perseverance, tact, resourcefulness and endurance. The President's horoscope is a truly wonderful study. He is indeed chosen of the Gods—a "Man of Destiny!"

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